Tara L. Elgie (Va. Bar No. 48259)
Martha E. Hulley (Va. Bar No. 73052)
LeClairRyan, A Professional Corporation
225 Reinekers Lane, Suite 700
Alexandria, VA 22314
Telephone: (703) 684-8007
Facsimile: (703) 647-5982
tara.elgie@leclairryan.com
martha.hulley@leclairryan.com

Counsel for Schimenti Construction Company, LLC

UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT EASTERN DISTRICT OF VIRGINIA RICHMOND DIVISION

In re:)	
)	
CIRCUIT CITY STORES, INC., et al.)	
)	Case No. 08-35653 (KRH)
)	
Debtors.)	Chapter 11
)	(Jointly Administered)
		,

JOINDER OF SCHIMENTI CONSTRUCTION COMPANY, LLC IN MOTION OF NORTH PLAINFIELD VF LLC AND MARLTON VF LLC TO COMPEL THE DEBTORS TO PERFORM POSTPETITION OBLIGATIONS PURSUANT TO 11 U.S.C. § 365(d)(3)

Schimenti Construction Company, LLC ("Schimenti Construction"), by and through its undersigned counsel, hereby join in the Motion of North Plainfield VF LLC and Marlton VF LLC to Compel the Debtors to Perform Postpetition Obligations Pursuant to 11 U.S.C. § 365 (d)(3) (Docket #1142) (the "Motion to Compel"), seeking to compel the Debtors to perform their obligations under the relevant leases to keep the properties free from all liens and in support there of state as follows:

1. North Plainfield VF LLC (the "Landlord") entered into a lease with Circuit City Stores, Inc. (the "Debtor") dated August 23, 2006 (the "Lease") for property located at U.S. Highway 22 and West End Avenue, North Plainfield, New Jersey (the "North Plainfield Premises"), identified by the Debtor as Store No. 4133.

- 2. Schimenti Construction is a contractor specializing in retail construction projects.
- 3. On or about May 5, 2008, Schimenti Construction entered into a Stipulated Sum Contract with the Debtor (the "Contract"). Under the Contract, Schimenti Construction agreed to furnish labor, materials and equipment necessary for the construction and fit-out of the Debtor's Store No. 4133 located at the North Plainfield Premises in exchange for a contract price of \$1,324,900.00 (the "Project").
- 4. In performing its obligations under the Contract with the Debtor for the Project at the North Plainfield Premises, Schimenti Construction incurred substantial costs. Additionally, Schimenti Construction entered into numerous subcontracts for the provision of labor, materials and equipment for the Project.
- 5. Following the Debtor's initiation of this Chapter 11 proceeding, several of the entities with which Schimenti Construction entered into subcontracts for the provision of labor, materials and equipment for the Project (the "Subcontractors") have made demand upon Schimenti Construction for payment and have threatened to file liens against the Project.
- 6. As set forth in the Motion to Compel, one of such Subcontractors, A.J. Maglio, Inc., has already filed a lien against the North Plainfield Premises in the amount of \$187,498.56 based upon a subcontract between A.J. Maglio, Inc. and Schimenti Construction (the "A.J. Maglio Lien"). A copy of the A.J. Maglio Lien was attached the Motion to Compel as Exhibit C.
- 7. Pursuant to the subcontracts entered into between Schimenti Construction and the Subcontractors, Schimenti Construction's receipt of payment from the Debtor is an express condition precedent to its obligation to make payment to the Subcontractors.
- 8. On January 8, 2009, Schimenti Construction filed its own lien against the North Plainfield Premises in the amount of \$684,124.70 based on the value of the work, services,

material and equipment provided in accordance with the Contract between Schimenti Construction and the Debtor. A copy of Schimenti Construction's lien is attached hereto as

Exhibit A.

- 9. To date, that amount owed to Schimenti Construction by the Debtor for Schimenti Construction's provision of work, services, materials or equipment on the Project at the North Plainfield Premises remains unpaid.
- 10. In its Motion to Compel, the Landlord asserts that its Lease with the Debtor specifically obligates the Debtor to cause liens against the North Plainfield Premises to be removed. Moreover, both the language of 11 U.S.C. § 365(d)(3) and this Court's Order dated November 13, 2008 authorizing the payment of contractors in settlement of liens expressly authorize the relief sought in the Motion to Compel.
- 11. To the extent that Schimenti Construction finds it necessary to deal directly with its Subcontractors to resolve the Subcontractors' claims against Schimenti Construction pursuant to the applicable subcontracts, Schimenti Construction seeks to be indemnified by the Debtor as a postpetition obligation that must be timely performed pursuant to 11 U.S.C. § 365(d)(3).

Reservation of Rights:

12. Schimenti Construction reserves any and all applicable rights with respect to the claims asserted against it or the North Plainfield Premises by any and all entities or individuals, including the right to contest the basis for any liens filed or claims asserted that relate to Schimenti Construction's provision of work, services, materials or equipment with respect to the Project located at the North Plainfield Premises. In addition, Schimenti Construction reserves any and all rights to seek indemnification from the Debtor with respect to any such aforementioned claim or lien.

WHEREFORE, Schimenti Construction prays for relief consistent with the foregoing joinder; and

WHEREFORE, Schimenti Construction prays for such other and further relief as may be just and required under all of the circumstances.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED, SCHIMENTI CONSTRUCTION COMPANY, LLC

By: /s/ Tara L. Elgie

Tara L. Elgie (Va. Bar No. 48259) Martha E. Hulley (Va. Bar No. 73052) LeClairRyan, A Professional Corporation 225 Reinekers Lane, Suite 700 Alexandria, VA 22314

Telephone: (703) 684-8007 Facsimile: (703) 647-5982 tara.elgie@leclairryan.com martha.hulley@leclairryan.com

- And -

/s/ Peter E. Strniste

Peter E. Strniste Patrick M. Birney Robinson & Cole LLP 280 Trumbull Street Hartford, CT 06103 pstrniste@rc.com

Tel.: (860) 275-8339 Fax: (860) 275-8299

Counsel for Schimenti Construction Company, LLC

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that on January 9, 2009 the attached motion was filed electronically and served by mail on anyone unable to accept electronic filing. Notice of this filing will be sent by e-mail to all parties by operation of the Court's electronic filing system or by mail to anyone unable to accept electronic filing as indicated on the Notice of Electronic Filing. Parties may access this filing through the Court's CM/ECF System. Notice has also been sent to the following entities included in the "Core Group" as follows:

Daniel F. Blanks, Esquire Douglas M. Foley, Esquire McGuire Woods LLP 9000 World Trade Center 101 W. Main Street Norfolk, VA 23510 Counsel for Debtors

Dion W. Hayes, Esquire James S. Sheerin, Esquire Sarah Beckett Boehm, Esquire McGuire Woods LLP Ones James Center 901 E. Cary Street Richmond, VA 23219 Counsel for Debtors

Gregg M. Galardi, Esquire Skadden Arps Slate Meagher & Flom, LLC One Rodney Square Post Office Box 636 Wilmington, Delaware 19899-0636 Counsel for Debtors

Chris L. Dickerson, Esquire Skadden Arps Slate Meagher & Flom, LLC 333 West Wacker Drive Chicago, IL 60606 Counsel for Debtors

Robert Van Arsdale, Esquire Assistant U.S. Trustee Office of the U.S. Trustee 701 East Broad Street, Suite 4304 Richmond, VA 23219 Office of the U.S. Trustee Linda K. Myers, Esquire Kirkland & Ellis, LLP 200 East Randolph Drive Chicago, IL 60601 Special Counsel for Debtors

David S. Berman, Esquire Riemer & Braunstein, LLP Three Center Plaza, 6th Floor Boston, Massachusetts 02108 Counsel for Bank of America, N.A.

Bruce Matson, Esquire LeClairRyan Riverfront Plaza, East Tower 951 East Byrd Street, 8th Floor Richmond, Virginia 23219 Counsel for Bank of America, N.A.

Lynn L. Tavenner, Esquire
Tavenner & Beran, PLC
20 North Eighth Street, Second Floor
Richmond, Virginia 23219
Counsel for the Official Committee of Unsecured Creditors

Robert J. Feinstein, Esquire Pachulski Strang Ziehl & Jones LLP 780 Third Aenue, 26th Floor New York, New York 10017 Counsel for the Creditors Committee

/s/ Tara L. Elgie

Tara L. Elgie (Va. Bar No. 48259) Martha E. Hulley (Va. Bar No. 73052) LeClairRyan, A Professional Corporation 225 Reinekers Lane, Suite 700 Alexandria, VA 22314 Telephone: (703) 684-8007 Facsimile: (703) 647-5982

tara.elgie@leclairryan.com martha.hulley@leclairryan.com Case 08-35653-KRH Doc 1451 Filed 01/09/09 Entered 01/09/09 17:19:39 Desc Main Document Page 7 of 16

EXHIBIT A

CONSTRUCTION LIEN CLAIM

TO THE CLERK, COUNTY OF SOMERSET

In accordance with the terms and provisions of the "Construction Lien Law," P.L. 1993, c. 318, (c.2A:44A-1 et seq.) notice is hereby given that:

1. The Claimant, whose name is Schimenti Construction Company, LLC, and whose address is 650 Danbury Road, Ridgefield, Connecticut 06877 hereby claims a construction lien against the below stated real property owned by Ace Holdings, Limited Liability Company and/or The Bardy Realty Company and leased by North Plainfield VF L.L.C.:

Real Property:

1200 ROUTE 22 EAST

NORTH PLAINFIELD, NJ 07060

Lease:

Lease by and between The Bardy Realty Company and

North Plainfield VF, L.L.C. as more particularly described

in the attached Schedule A.

TWENTY FOUR and 70/100 (\$684,124.70) DOLLARS, for the value of the work, services, material or equipment provided in accordance with a contract with CIRCUIT CITY STORES, INC. (the party with whom the Claimant has a contract dated May 5, 2008), for the following work, services, material or equipment: Labor, material, work, equipment and services for the construction of a Circuit City Store in North Plainfield, New Jersey.

2. The amount due for the work, services, materials or equipment delivery provided by the Claimant in connection with the improvement of the real property, and upon which this lien claim is based, is as follows:

Total contract amount:

\$1,324,900.00

Amendments to contract:

\$93,011.08

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	Total contract amount and amendments to contract:	<u>\$1,417,91</u>	1.08	
	Contract amount paid to date:	<u>\$733,78</u>	6.38	
	Amendments to contract amount paid to date:	<u>\$</u>	0.00	
	TOTAL LIEN CLAIM AMOUNT:	<u>\$684,12</u>	4.70	
3.	This construction lien is claimed ag	ainst the interest	of THE BARDY REALTY	
COMPANY and/or ACE HOLDINGS, LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY as (check one):				
	⊠ Owner, ☐ Lessee, ☐ Other	(describe)		
in that certain tract or parcel of land and premises described as Block 52-203.01, Lot 1 on the				
Tax Map of the Town of North Plainfield, County of Union, State of New Jersey, for the				
impro	vement of which property the aforement	ioned work, service	es, materials or equipment was	
provid	led.			
4.	This construction lien is also claimed a	gainst the interest	of NORTH PLAINFIELD VF,	
L.L.C	as (check one):	r, 🛚 Essee,	Other (describe)	
in con	nection with a lease agreement with Th	ne Bardy Realty C	ompany for that certain tract or	
parcel	of land and premises described as Block	s 52-203.01, Lot 1	on the Tax Map of the Town of	
North	Plainfield, County of Union, State of N	ew Jersey, for the	improvement of which property	
the af	Orementioned work, services, materials	or equipment wa	s provided. A more particular	
descri	ption of said lease agreement is incorpor	ated herein and att	ached hereto as Schedule A.	
5.	The work, services, materials or equ	ipment was provi	ded pursuant to the terms of a	
writte	n contract (or in the case of a supplied	er, a delivery or o	order slip signed by the owner,	

contractor, or subcontractor having a direct contractual relationship with a contractor, or an authorized agent of any of them), dated May 5, 2008 between this Claimant and CIRCUIT CITY STORES, INC., whose address is: 9950 Maryland Drive, Richmond, Virginia 23233.

6. The date of the provision of the last work, services, material or equipment for which payment is claimed is: **OCTOBER 10, 2008**.

Notice to Owner of Real Property

- 1. Your real estate or interest in said real estate may be subject to sale to satisfy the amount asserted by this claim. However, your real estate or interest in said real estate cannot be sold until the facts and issues which form the basis of this claim are decided in a legal proceeding before a court of law. The lien claimant is required by law to commence suit to enforce this claim.
- 2. The claimant filing the lien claim shall forfeit all rights to enforce the lien and shall be required to discharge the lien of record, if the claimant fails to bring an action in the Superior Court, in the county in which the real property is situated to establish the lien claim:
 - (a) Within one year of the date of the last provision of work, services, materials or equipment payment for which the lien claim was filed; or
 - (b) Within 30 days following receipt of written notice, by personal service or certified mail, return receipt requested, from the owner requiring the claimant to commence an action to establish the lien claim.
- 3. You will be given proper notice of the proceeding and an opportunity to challenge this claim and set forth your position. If, after you (and/or your contractor or subcontractor) have had the opportunity to challenge this lien claim, the court of law enters a judgment against you and in favor of the claimant filing this lien claim, and thereafter you fail to pay the judgment, your real estate or interest in said real estate may then be sold to satisfy the judgment.

- 4. You may choose to avoid subjecting your real estate or interest in said real estate to sale by doing either of the following:
 - (a) You (or your contractor or subcontractor) can pay the claimant and obtain a discharge of lien claim from the claimant; or
 - (b) You (or your contractor or subcontractor) can cause the lien claim to be discharged by filing a surety bond or making a deposit of funds as provided for in Section 31 of P.L. 1993, c. 318 (c. 2A:44A-31.)
- 5. If you (or your contractor or subcontractor) choose to pay the claimant under 4(a) above, you will lose your right to challenge this lien claim in a legal proceeding before a court of law.
- 6. If you (or your contractor or subcontractor) choose to discharge the lien claim by filing a surety bond or making a deposit of funds as provided in Section 31 of P.L. 1993, c. 318 (c. 2A:44A-31) you will retain your right to challenge this lien claim in a legal proceeding before a court of law.

Notice to Subcontractor or Contractor:

This lien has been filed with the county clerk and served upon the owner of the real estate.

This lien places the owner on notice that the real estate may be sold to satisfy this claim unless the owner pays the claimed sum to this claimant.

Dated: January 8, 2009.

Signed:

Name/Title:

MATTHEW C. SCHIMENTI

On Behalf of: Schimenti Construction Company, LLC

Note: This form must be signed by the claimant or, in the case of a partnership or corporation, a partner or duly authorized officer thereof.

RECORD AND RETURN TO:

Peter E. Strniste, Jr. Robinson & Cole LLP 280 Trumbull Street Hartford, CT 06103-3597 860-275-8339

SCHEDULE A

ASSIGNMENT AND ASSUMPTION OF GROUND LEASE

WITNESSETH:

WHEREAS, Assignor is the holder of the lessee's interest under the Ground Lesse described in <u>Schedule "A"</u> annexed hereto (the "Ground Lesse") assigned by North Plainfield Holding Corporation by operation of law to Assignor pursuant to a Certificate of Merger filed with the New Jersey Secretary of State and affecting property located in North Plainfield, New Jersey more particularly described in <u>Schedule "B"</u> annexed hereto (the "Premises"), upon which Premises are located certain improvements (said improvements, collectively, being referred to herein as the "Buildings");

WHEREAS. Assignor desires to assign to Assignee all of its right, title and interest in, to, and under the Ground Lease; and

WHEREAS, Assignee dealres to assume all of the obligations of the lessee under the Ground Lease to the extent accruing from and after the date hereof.

NOW, THEREFORE, in consideration of the mutual covenants and agreements hereinafter set forth and other good and valuable consideration, the receipt and sufficiency of which are hereby acknowledged, the parties hereto agree as follows:

- Assignor hareby assigns to Assignee all of its right, title, and interest in, to, and under the Ground Lease.
- Assignor hereby assigns all of its rights, title and interest in, to and under any instruments, agreements or documents to which Assignor is a party relating to the leasehold estate created by the Ground Lease (the "Related Documents").
- 3. Assignee hereby accepts the foregoing assignment. Assignee, for the benefit of Assignor, covenants and agrees on behalf of Assignee, the legal representatives and the successors and assigns of Assignee, to keep, observe, and perform from and after the date of the delivery hereof each and every one of the terms contained in the Ground Lease and the Related Documents accruing after the date hereof.

SCHEDULE A

 Lease between Jack Bardy, Philip M. Bardy, Jeanette Bardy, widow, Everyn Bardy Hodes, as partners, trading as Bardy Realty Company, a partnership (Landlord) and Pisimfield Atlantic Corp. (Tenant) dated December 10, 1961, as evidenced by short form Lease dated December 20, 1961 and recorded May 22, 1962 in Deed Book 1013 Page 405, as amended by, including, but not limited to, the following:

Assignment of Lease by and between Plainfield Atlantic Corp. (Assignor) and George Slegter and Morton A. Slegter (Assignee) as recorded in Deed Book 1343 Page 326.

Amendment of Lease by and between Dora Bardy, Widow, Philip Bardy, Jeanette Bardy Levy and Evelyn Bardy Hodes, as partners trading as Bardy Realty Company, a Partnership, and Borough Holding Co., a New Jersey corporation (Landlord) and George Siegier and Morton A. Siegier (Tenant) dated November 4, 1969,

meane assignments of Tenent's interest into North Plainfield Associates Limited Pertnership as evidenced by Assignment recorded January 13, 1986 in Deed Book 1566 Page 812.

Assignment of Ground Lesse by and between North Plainfield Associates Limited Partnership, (Assignor) and North Plainfield Holding Corporation (Assignae) dated February 28, 1989 and recorded March 15, 1989 in Deed Book 1726 Page 85.

The said North Plainfield Holding Corporation merged into North Plainfield Holdings L.L.C. by Certificate of Merger filed with the New Jersey Secretary of State.

FORMAL ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

COUNTY OF Fairfield

BE IT REMEMBERED that on this 8th day of January, 2009, before me, the undersigned authority, personally appeared Mc Hhrw Schment.

Who, I am satisfied, is the person name in the foregoing instrument, and I having first made known to him or her the contents thereof, he or she acknowledged the he or she signed, sealed and delivered the same as his or her voluntary act and deed. All of which is hereby certified.

Notary Public

Commissioner of Superia.



BRETT A. RADI SOMERSET COUNTY CLERK 20 GROVE STREET P.O. BOX 3000 SOMERVILLE, NJ 08876-1262

Recorded:

01/08/2009 03:06:59 PM

Book:

OPR 6184 Page: 1636-1644

Instrument No.:

2009000808

CONSLIEN 9 PGS \$15.00

Recorder:

HECKMAN

DO NOT DISCARD



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